

Budget
Frequently Asked Questions
 Compilation of Questions from Geographic Area Briefings

	FPA SUBJECT AREA	ANSWER BY	QUESTION / COMMENT ANSWERS
1.	Budget	FPA Core	Will FPA consider or require or not consider other all-risk responses, such as vehicle accidents, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, etc., that are an increasing portion of the workload for wildland fire personnel? Phase I of FPA-Preparedness Module is developed specifically for the initial response workload funded from the Preparedness budget activity. The other all-risk incidents that you mention are not part of FPA vision.
2.	Budget	FPA Core	How does fire severity funding get structured or integrated into FPA? Severity funds are emergency suppression dollars, and therefore are not part of determining the preparedness budget and organization.
3.	Budget	FPA Core	Don't know enough about existing reports yet. Will FPA produce report on season length linked to "tour" of personnel? The standard reports provided by FPA-PM will be robust; and there will be query capability of the national database. The "preparedness" season for each FPU will be calculated from historic analysis data; the preparedness season is the link to the length of funded tours.



4.	Budget	FPA Core	<p>Why would we <u>not</u> replicate rural fire resources? The non-budgeted resources are not replicated because these resources are assumed to be a fixed quantity.</p> <p>We use rural fire assistance money to create rural fire capacity for initial attack. Rural fire assistance funding is not part of FPA-PM. However, OMB and Congress have an acute interest in the contributions made by rural fire assistance funded resources.</p> <p>Why is that different from budgeted resources? It might be more cost effective to add a rural fire engine and crew to the mix. The contributions of state and local resources are important, and can be efficiently employed to meet the federal fire protection mission, but the budget submission portion of FPA-PM is designed to determine federal fire preparedness funding.</p>
5.	Budget	FPA Core	<p>When situations arise, under critical/severe fire danger (without fires) how will the process change for requesting additional resources (severity requests) with this new system? The severity funding process is unchanged by FPA-PM.</p> <p>And how will the request for (additional resources) be filled? The funding source is emergency suppression budget activity; filling requests is tactical program implementation and not part of FPA.</p>
6.	Budget	FPA Core	<p>Why is this system being limited by budget? Shouldn't it be telling you "ideally" what you need to accomplish your objectives? I.e., what is your ideal organization whether it exceeds what you have money to buy/fund.</p> <p>Simply, it is part of how optimization routines are constructed. Total costs (preparedness and suppression costs) are the "constraint" that optimization works against. The current optimization formulation will provide outputs that provide information on whether FMU objectives are met or not met.</p> <p>FPA is a planning and budget tool. FPA-PM can be used in the board planning context, but much of the current FPA work has been focused on budget formulation and allocation.</p>



7.	Budget	ICG	<p>How will the budget selection and approval work with Congress? If position 1 is chosen one year and the next year position 2 is chosen, how would we adjust our program?</p> <p>It remains to be seen how Congress will use the results of the program. However, the FPA Steering Committee has been working to establish processes for budget formulation and allocation.</p> <p>If the outputs of FPA indicate a substantial change in the local unit program, the local unit would be encouraged to develop a transition plan to deal with the changes.</p>
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